

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Toshio Kitamura et al.  
Entitled: Novel Cytokine Receptor-Like Protein  
Appln. No. To be assigned  
Filing Date Concurrently

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, Applicant's respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

**In the Claims:**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c) (3), please substitute for pending claims 5 and 10 with the following clean version of the claims. The changes to these claims are shown explicitly in the attached "Marked Up Version of Claims."

5. A method for producing a protein encoded by a DNA selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a DNA encoding a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4;
- (b) a DNA comprising the coding region of the base sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3;
- (c) a DNA encoding a mutant protein consisting of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 wherein one or more amino acids are substituted, deleted, inserted, and/or added, said mutant protein being a functional equivalent to the protein consisting of the amino acid sequences described in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and